

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATEHOOD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

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Saturday, April 3, 1982

12:54 p.m.

Ninth Floor Auditorium
10th and E Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

C O N T E N T S

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(12:54 p.m.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Fellow delegates, we do not have a quorum at this point. However, our speaker has been here since 12:00. It is now 12:54, so we're going to begin the meeting. We won't conduct any business, but we're going to ask our speaker to join us and we ask for your attention.

Our speaker today is Ms. Josephine Butler. Ms. Josephine Butler is the Chairperson of the D. C. Statehood Party, and has been so for how many years?

MS. BUTLER: Five.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Five years.

Ms. Butler is also one of the founders of the Statehood Party, along with Julius Hobson and several others of us. She is one of the founders of the statehood movement. She has actively been involved in all kinds of activities that have to do with self-determination. She has supported other kinds of activities leading to self-determination for Washington, D. C.

She has been actively involved even out of this country in matters dealing with fairness to human beings and human rights. She has brought with her some materials that will give us a little background on the statehood movement

— which has brought us to this particular point.

So, Ms. Butler, I welcome you and thank you very much, and introduce you to the delegates.

(Applause.)

MS. BUTLER: Thank you, Mr. President. This is an overwhelming experience for me because, as you know, for so long I have worked and prayed for this day when we'd come together and starting writing our constitution. So, if I get a little choked up at times, just look the other way and realize that this is really a wonderful experience for me.

I want to thank you again for inviting me to speak to you this morning, and the first thing I want to do is congratulate you for the happiness that you have brought to so many of us who read with such pleasure the preamble to the constitution as it appeared in the Washington Post.

I happened to have been having breakfast with Tina Hobson that morning, and we read it over and over and over. We could not believe that our constitution was really in the making. I was so happy I began to love the Washington Post.

(Laughter.)

MS. BUTLER: I knew something was wrong, but I think something was right because you had created a vision that made me feel like we were all one people working towards a common

—

goal, and that is to end this ridiculous situation that we in D. C. have found ourselves in.

And for those of you who don't know him personally, I think that I'd like to extend Dr. Benjamin Spoch's congratulations and best wishes. He asked me to give each of you a kiss. For those of you that I kissed already, consider that a kiss from Dr. Spoch, who is a long-time supporter for statehood for D. C. And those of you whom I haven't kissed, I'll get around to it.

As you might remember, Dr. Spoch ran for President of the United States in the first year that we had the party together, and Julius Hobson ran for Vice President. So, I have promised him faithfully that as fast as you get things out, I'll send them to him. He wants to be here at some time towards the end of this to join you in your celebration of having completed this document.

To talk about the history of struggle for self-determination in the District of Columbia, I can't just talk about the Statehood Party because I think we do ourselves a disservice at any time when we begin to talk about some time in our past and we don't go back to the roots of what was happening.

I think it's very important that anytime we begin to

— talk about self-determination, we start at the point of what happened to get us into this position, and then we give credit and thanks to the people who struggled back in the 1800s and brought us to the point where the Congress had to appoint a government, and that we look with pride at the accomplishment of that government.

Although that government was in place for a few years, they put in the first sewer lines. They never put in a sewer line before that; sewers were running down the streets to gutters. They planted trees, they paved the streets, and they built the depot. They did all these things in three years before the Congress decided the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, and threw them out of office.

Many of us, from that day to this, have looked down upon that government and only looked at the bad things that happened and never given them praise for the good things that they did. I think that we need to turn our faces around, those of us who have that habit, and give credit to that government for a lot of the things that we enjoy today -- our tree-lined streets, our train depot, and many other things that came about during the time of that government.

I think we also need to give praise to the people who pulled themselves out of the feeling of loss in the 1950s

and began to push the "free D. C." movement and to push for self-determination in D. C. Although articulation at that time wasn't to the point that we could demand a specific thing, we were still saying that we were tired of things being the way they were.

As the establishment and the Congress began to play tricks on us and say, "Well, your troubles will go away if you vote for President," we went along with that and we voted for President and we found that our troubles didn't go away. Then they said, "Well, your troubles will go away if you vote for a school board," and we went along with that and we voted for a school board, and our troubles didn't go away.

Then it came to the point where Julius Hobson and about 40 of us said that when they told us that we needed an ear to Congress and what we needed to vote for was somebody who wouldn't be able to vote but who would be able to listen -- we said "Enough of this; we want no more of that. We want exactly what other people in this country have, and that is statehood. Our Republic is made up of a republic of states, and we want to be a state."

So, in 1971 an election was being held and we ran Julius Hobson on a platform to start a party, with a definite goal to bring statehood to the people of the District of

Columbia. Julius was able to get enough votes to establish a party with that goal, and we worked and pushed in those years to do the kinds of things that we thought would have to be done if we were to be a good, productive and the kind of state that we thought would be necessary.

Now, we didn't have much of a model because, as you know, many of the states today are in trouble. But we had no model to create the first city-state, so we drafted a platform of issues that we thought were important for people who would live in the first urban state in this country -- a platform that we thought was important for a state that was going to represent predominately black and Third World people.

For a state that was going to have an enormous amount of poor people, we decided to draft a platform that would deal with the issues we thought these people would face. Yes, we included gay people; they hadn't been included in any other platform that we could find in the country.

This platform had 111 planks; statehood is just one of them. I think many people had the idea that we were a one-issue party -- statehood. That's not so. Before we got to this point of statehood, we had about 26 planks in our platform that had been adopted, including the ones that put forth the mechanism that we could go to the community with a

petition and ask them if they were ready to move to statehood. So, we have come a long way over these same years.

I know when I was retyping this platform for our tenth anniversary on March 23rd, 1981, I couldn't believe that when we started, we didn't have a D. C. university. I remember the fight we got into, Charlie, as we began to say that we ought to have a university rather than a college. Some of the people who were very much involved in the college really didn't want to get into a university, and I remember all of those kinds of struggles that we went through.

Nevertheless, we adopted this platform, and if you read it, you will see that many of the issues here already have been put into law. So, all of that is very important to our people in the Statehood Party and people moving towards statehood.

I still have a bit of a disappointment in that we weren't able to get to anything to deal with land policy. I want to impress upon you that to deal with land policy, when we are an area that can't expand -- we are a small area -- it is very important. We are an area where about 66 percent -- is that right, Hilda, 66 percent of our land is presently off of the tax rolls? Is that right?

MS. MASON: I think that's too high.

MS. BUTLER: Okay. Could you give me a little better number?

MR. T. MOORE: Fifty-five.

MS. BUTLER: Fifty-five percent of our land is off the tax rolls, and I know that you know that that is ridiculous and we are not going to long survive as a state when we can only tax 55 percent of our land. I think if we don't take control of that, more land is going to be removed from our tax rolls.

So, it's my feeling that land policy -- the use of land, how it's going to be taxed, where it's going to be taxed the highest and how that's going to happen -- is going to be a very important issue for this new state. And I will be testifying, most certainly, at several of the hearings on this issue because I feel that it is very important and we must deal with it.

I just again want to extend my congratulations to you for the work that you've done. I can't believe that this body of people who hardly knew each other a few months ago has come together and has done the work that you've done so far ahead of time, and has made us feel so good about it.

I'm looking forward to the hearings on the issues. I like the program of hearings you've put together, and I look

— forward to participating in it. I just want to thank you again for having me here, and I don't want to take too much of your time because I know you're busy.

Mr. President, I'd like to present something to the convention in the name of the Statehood Party.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Please do.

MS. BUTLER: As you know, those of us in the Statehood Party look to Julius for our guidance. So, I'd like you to accept this from the Statehood Party and put it someplace where you can all see it, and meditate over what Julius thinks about what you're doing and how proud he is of every one of you. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Thank you very much; thank you very much.

Let me point out that we do not at this point have a speaker for next week, which is April 10th, but we do have two speakers for the 17th. One will be Congressman John Conyers, who has been a supporter of statehood for many years, and our Mayor. And we're still working out a time for the other top government official, and that Mr. Arrington Dixon.

(The convention was officially called to order at 1:08 p.m.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: May we now have the meditation?

(A moment of meditation.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Mr. Secretary, will you call
the roll?

MR. COOPER: Delegate Baldwin?

MR. BALDWIN: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Barnes?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Blount?

MR. BLOUNT: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Bruning?

MR. BRUNING: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Cassell?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Clark?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Coates?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Cooper, present.

Delegate Corn?

MS. CORN: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Croft?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Eichhorn?

MS. EICHHORN: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Feeley?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Freeman?

MS. FREEMAN: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Garner?

MR. GARNER: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Graham?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Harris?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Holmes?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Jackson?

MR. JACKSON: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Johnson?

MS. JOHNSON: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Jones?

MS. JONES: I'm here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Jordan?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Kameny?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Lockridge?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Long?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Love?

MR. LOVE: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Maguire?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Marcus?

MR. MARCUS: Good afternoon.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Charles Mason?

MR. MASON: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Hilda Mason?

MS. MASON: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Brian Moore?

MR. B. MOORE: Present.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Jerry Moore?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Talmadge Moore?

MR. T. MOORE: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Nahikian?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Nixon?

MR. NIXON: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Oulahan?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Paramore?

MS. PARAMORE: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Rothschild?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Schrag?

MR. SCHRAG: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Shelton?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Simmons?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Street?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Terrell?

MR. TERRELL: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Thomas?

MR. THOMAS: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Warren?

MS. WARREN: Here.

MR. COOPER: Delegate Barnes?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Clark?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Coates?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Croft?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Feeley?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Graham?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Harris?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Holmes?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Jordan?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Kameny?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Lockridge?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Long?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Maguire?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Jerry Moore?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Nahikian?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Culahan?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Rothschild?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Shelton?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Simmons?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Delegate Street?

(No response.)

MR. COOPER: Mr. President, there are 25 members
present.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, there is a quorum present.

Do I have a motion to approve the minutes?

MR. BLOUNT: So move.

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chair?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Love?

MR. LOVE: Yes. On March 27th, I moved the order of the day. That's a non-debatable, non-votable issue, and I do not see that motion of mine in these minutes.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Do you remember at what point in the meeting that occurred, delegate Love?

MR. LOVE: I remember it was at the point where you were discussing literature going to the Washington Post. So, wherever that was was where I made the motion.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Do you want to repeat that motion and see if we recognize it?

MR. LOVE: I moved the order of the day.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Mr. Secretary?

MR. COOPER: Well, if he did, in fact, move it and it's not present in here, I will check the transcript and if it is so moved, I'll insert it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay. Delegate Corn?

MS. CORN: I see a real serious problem on page 2 of the minutes at 7.01. 7.00: delegate Baldwin made a motion to suspend the rules. Then, under 7.01, because rules were suspended and you had a quorum there -- then in 7.01, I made a motion to amend. Then it says, "Love restated Corn amendment."

Then it says, "Amended motion carried, 16 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstaining."

That is a total of 22 delegates. Since an "abstain" vote doesn't count as those present and voting, that's 21; you need 23 for a quorum. Therefore, either the numbers are not recorded correctly here or it could not have carried because there was no quorum.

Therefore, I would suggest, A, that the transcript be rechecked; second of all, if the transcript is correct, that the Committee on Rules and Calendar be advised of this problem and, hopefully, they will suggest it as a change in the rules.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Would you check the transcript, first of all?

MR. COOPER: The members present constitute a quorum; they don't all have to vote.

MS. CORN: To carry any resolution or other business of this body as not expressed in these rules, you must have a majority of those present and voting to vote for it, and you must have a quorum.

MR. COOPER: There was a quorum present.

MS. CORN: That is not a quorum. First, you have to have a quorum.

MR. COOPER: We had a quorum.

MS. CORN: And then a majority of those present and voting. Well, if you had a quorum of 23 and one vote abstained, then you no longer have a quorum because you have 22.

MR. COOPER: No, no.

MS. CORN: But in this case, with the "abstain" vote, you still only have 22; that is not a quorum.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Schrag?

MR. SCHRAG: I don't think there's a real problem here. I have noticed that there are some meetings when a quorum is present, but two people are having a conversation in the back of the room or something like that. So, a person who, in fact, abstains, doesn't raise his hand as an abstention. The person is present, a quorum is present, but the person isn't recorded as either "yes," "no" or an abstention.

Therefore, I think that on non-roll call votes, we don't really need to worry about the fact that the number in here is less than 23. On a roll call vote, then perhaps the delegate's point is well taken. But on hand votes or voice votes, I don't think there's a problem of a quorum not being present unless somebody suggests the absence of a quorum and

— a quorum call is taken.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Jones?

MS. JONES: I would say that if you check the transcript, that was one of the places where people were not voting and were saying things like "present." So, I think there was a quorum.

MR. COOPER: Whenever we lose a quorum, I will record that in the minutes. As you know, we have lost it for the last two weeks, and if you look, it's recorded.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Any further corrections to the minutes?

(No response.)

MS. CORN: I move to adopt them, as amended.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Is there a second?

(The motion was duly seconded.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It has been moved and seconded that we adopt the minutes, as amended.

MS. CORN: I move the previous question.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All in favor, signify by saying aye.

(A chorus of "ayes.")

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Those opposed?

(No response.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Abstain?

(No response.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The minutes are adopted.

Announcements: Ms. Butler brought to us as one of her contributions to us an announcement of a production by the Progressive Club of Washington, D. C.; there are flyers up front that you can get copies of. There is a Paul Robson remembrance at the Shoreham Hotel, the Palladium Room, on Friday April 9, 7:30 p.m., and the admission is free.

MS. CORN: What are we talking about?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: There are some flyers up front, I believe, and they look like this (indicating).

MS. CORN: There aren't any.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: If you don't see any up front, then Ms. Butler will have them to give to you.

Are there any other announcements? Delegate Nixon?

MR. NIXON: Mr. President, I have a resolution here that I would like to have voted on and approved by the delegation.

Members of the convention, in the interest of furthering the principles of participatory democracy and nurturing the need for the youthful majority to stand up, belong and be heard, I do hereby petition this, the District

— of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention, to dutifully resolve that the Committee on Preamble and Rights, which has been duly charged by this convention to carry into execution the task of recommending a name for the 51st state, to solicit by way of a direct and deliberate campaign from the several schools of the District of Columbia suggestions, recommendations and ideas on naming the new state, and that such suggestions, recommendations and ideas be given serious deliberation and due consideration in the process, such that as many as may become the progenitors of our future well-being may have had the opportunity to guide and direct in this, the natal stage of such a significant and historic event.

Mr. President, I so move.

(The motion was duly seconded.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It has been moved and seconded that this particular proposal go to the Preamble and Rights Committee. Any discussion?

Delegate Marcus, delegate Baldwin.

MR. BALDWIN: It's a very good proposal, but --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: No; I called on Marcus first.

MR. MARCUS: I'm not sure how to respond to this particular resolution because while I heartily endorse the idea, I believe it's out of place in the agenda and I would

—

— suggest that it belongs under the provision in the agenda of new business or under the place in the agenda dedicated to reports from committees.

I would like to leave the body with the impression that I think it's a very, very good resolution and one we should undertake. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Baldwin?

MR. BALDWIN: I think it is a good resolution and it is timely, but the Committee on Preamble and Rights has taken the action that he's requesting in the resolution. At our Monday meeting, the committee voted the following: that we would contact the schools and get input from them as far as a name; secondly, that we would go on a talk show. Both of those actions by the committee have been carried out.

I, as Chairman of the subcommittee, did, in fact, contact Ms. McKenzie's office. She referred the matter to a Dr. Marilyn Brown, and they are in the process of getting the schools involved and have been given the date of the 9th, which the committee agreed to. I also told them they had additional time, if need be. So, the resolution is proper and the committee has begun working on it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Cooper?

MR. COOPER: Yes. I also would like to speak to

— this proposal, and I do think it's very timely because item number VI on our agenda is the item that is reversed for presentation of petitions, which Mr. Nixon certainly did do -- he said, "I petition this body" -- and communications and other announcements.

I wholeheartedly support it. Even though the committee has undertaken that consideration, I think the convention should go on record as having taken such a positive action. I think Mr. Nixon was brave and very bold and doing the right thing in coming before us with this, and I urge all of my fellow delegates to support Mr. Nixon's resolution.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Paramore?

MS. PARAMORE: I also rise in support of this resolution because I've already done it in my classroom, and you wouldn't believe some of the beautiful names that I have solicited from my students. So, I think it's an excellent resolution.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Mason?

MS. MASON: Mr. President, Hilda Mason, at large.

I wonder if it's appropriate for me to ask a question of delegate Baldwin.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Certainly.

MS. MASON: Would you consider expanding this to the

University of the District of Columbia and other schools of higher education?

MR. BALDWIN: We'd be glad to. We meet Monday, but the motion was public schools, so we will consider higher education.

MR. NIXON: The resolution said "several schools." It did not specifically say public schools, Catholic schools; it just says "several schools."

MR. BALDWIN: She was asking about our committee, and I have answered that.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay. Those in favor of the motion, signify by saying aye.

(A chorus of "ayes.")

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Opposed?

(No response.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Abstain?

(No response.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The motion carries, and this will be transmitted to the Preamble Committee, noting that the Preamble Committee has already taken action on this.

The next item is the approval of the agenda for today's meeting.

MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, I move the approval of

the agenda for April 3rd.

(The motion was duly seconded.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I recognize delegate Jackson.

MR. JACKSON: Yes, sir. I have one question. Where in here are the reports from the various committees?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: On the second page; there should be two pages there.

MR. JACKSON: Where? If you could point it out to me, I don't see it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Item number XI, Vice Presidents' Reports.

MR. JACKSON: Are the Vice Presidents going to report on these committees or are the committees chairs going to report? That's all I wanted to know about the agenda because I don't understand. Could you explain it to me?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Well, it's the usual procedure. This is what appears on the agenda each week: First Vice President and the standing committees under him; two, Second Vice President and the standing committees under her.

MR. JACKSON: Then I would move to amend the agenda, Mr. Chairman, to put this report as the first one after the President's report, and then I'd like to say why I've moved it, if I may.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Is there a second to that motion?

(The motion was duly seconded.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It has been moved and seconded that item number XI be moved to the first item underneath the President's report.

MR. JACKSON: I say this because I think the most important thing at this point is to discuss the work of the committees. I think that the other ones, while very good, are mainly procedural and operating things. And for me to better understand, and I think for others too, I think it would be well if we put this at the top of the agenda so we can have more discussion on this, so if we get near the end, we're not tired and have people leaving.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Let me give you the reason for that. There is an order of procedure in our rules, and this follows that order. Secondly, it is hoped that we can get these housekeeping and procedural things out of the way since the time will be spent on the committee reports. We also need to discuss the public hearings that will begin next week. If we take that first, we may not get to the other things. You will recall that sometimes we have adjourned before we have gotten to procedural matters.

MR. JACKSON: I do understand that, but I would rather leave that out than leave the reports of committees, which seem to me more important.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Thank you, sir.

Any further discussion on the motion?

(No response.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The motion is to advance item XI to the item directly under the President's report. Are you ready for the question?

Those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(A chorus of "ayes.")

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Those opposed?

(A chorus of "nays.")

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Those in favor, signify by raising your hands, please.

MR. COOPER: Twenty-one.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Those opposed?

MR. COOPER: We've got hands going up and down; I can't get an accurate count.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Please hold them up now, those opposed to the motion to change the order of the agenda.

MR. COOPER: Three.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay. Those abstaining?

(No response.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All right, the motion does carry.

Let me make another suggestion. Something that doesn't appear on the agenda is a discussion of the public hearings which begin on Monday. I'd like to suggest that before we begin to deal with the committee reports, we deal with some of the business -- the need and the support for the public hearings.

Can we have that by consensus? Would that be all right with you, delegate Jackson?

MR. JACKSON: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All right; thank you very much. Delegate Marcus?

MR. MARCUS: I'd like to move to amend the agenda to include in the President's report that a portion of his report be devoted to a discussion of the working conditions of the research assistants and the availability of resources to the research assistants.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I don't understand.

MR. MARCUS: It has come to my attention, Mr. President, that many of the research assistants do not have access to appropriate resources or to cooperation on the part

— of the Executive Committee and the staff. And this is not meant as criticism of the staff.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Marcus, we can discuss that when we get to the Executive Secretary's report. You can make your suggestions to her, but I don't think we'll change the agenda for that purpose. This is something our staff needs to work out; it's something we can't resolve on the floor anyway.

If you have some concerns, please raise those when the Executive Secretary makes her report. That's her responsibility and, of course, also her concern.

MR. MARCUS: Well, I'd just like the President's assurance that the Executive Secretary will address those concerns directly. It's my understanding that there has been quite a bit of discussion in the office providing those things.

MR. COOPER: Point of order. It did not get a second; it cannot be debated.

MR. LOVE: I second the motion.

MR. MARCUS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It's too late.

MR. LOVE: I'm sorry; you never asked for a second.

MR. MARCUS: It seems that the Secretary enjoys

— running roughshod over issues which he doesn't agree with.

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chairman, you never asked for a second on that motion. I never heard you ask for a second.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Mr. Love, were you recognized?

Now, Mr. Marcus, we've had a change in the agenda. I hope that we're not going to waste a lot of time on a simple point of order which is not going to advance, first of all, the purposes of the convention. I have made it clear to you that the Executive Secretary is the person to address that to, which means that your concerns can be taken care of. Now, I'd like to move on.

MR. MARCUS: Thank you. If the President will assure me that that will happen, I'll accept his word. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The first item under the President's report is a calendar change. The calendar that we have -- and this has gone to the papers -- has, on Thursday the 9th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Convention Hall, the legislative hearing.

Since this was published the chairperson of that committee has indicated that that happens to be Good Friday. Large numbers of people will be participating in various kinds of observances of the upcoming Easter holiday.

Therefore, he has indicated he'd like to strike that; he'd like to strike 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Convention Hall, for the Legislative Committee on the 9th. He would like, furthermore, to conduct his entire hearing on the 15th, Thursday, the 15th; rather than 6:30 to 9:30, from 3:30 to 9:30. Is that correct?

MR. TERRELL: That is correct.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay.

MS. CORN: Do you realize, sir, that that conflicts with the Executive Committee's hearings as well as the Economic Development Committee hearings?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: No, I don't see that. That's the only meeting on the 15th.

MS. JOHNSON: Delegate Corn, the Executive Committee is not having a hearing on April 15th at 3:30 to 9:30 p.m. I am a member of the Executive Branch Committee, and our public hearings are on April 5th and April 7th.

MS. CORN: You're right; I stand corrected. But the Economic Development Committee hearings are --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Other than that, the calendar remains valid.

Item number b under the President's report, coordination with Vice Presidents --

MS. CORN: I'm never going to get my --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Corn, you're out of order.

Coordination with the Vice Presidents regarding outgoing correspondence, speakers at committee meetings, and speakers and witnesses at public hearings -- delegate Corn and delegate Terrell, please, let us move on now. Delegate Corn, I would really appreciate your attention because that's a reasonable request, okay?

MS. CORN: I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: There will be a break at some point for that kind of discussion.

There has been correspondence going out from chairpersons of committees to individuals to testify, to other persons for various reasons, that the coordinating Vice Presidents are not necessarily aware of. I'd just like to make certain that all such correspondence goes to your coordinating Vice President so that those individuals, first of all, know what's going on, and secondly so that there can be some coordination just in case there happens to be any duplication. That has to do with speakers at committee meetings, too.

Now, most of those committee meetings, I suppose,

are either completed or the speakers have been engaged. But I'm suggesting that all of those invitations that go out in the name of the convention go through your coordinating Vice President, whose job it is to make certain that there's no duplication and that we all know what's going on.

Regarding speakers and witnesses at public hearings, I'm sure that those have all been decided on and invited, and so forth. That's also something that we should know about. In the central file in the office, we should at any time be able to see exactly who is appearing as a witness and who will speak to the convention.

Delegate Corn?

MS. CORN: I have two questions. One, can a delegate be a witness to another committee to testify?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I know of no prohibition against that; a witness is an individual who wants to testify.

MS. CORN: Second of all, I would like to move that this convention ask the representative of the Washington Post, Mr. Valentine, to post the hearing schedules along with the three phone numbers of this convention so that all interested persons throughout the city --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Corn, this is really out of order, but let me tell you that that has been done.

I think it was in the paper Thursday, wasn't it?

MR. COOPER: Yes.

MS. CORN: I haven't seen it in the Post.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, it was. It has been suggested that we thank Mr. Valentine for assiduously pressing us for that schedule. He pressed us every day for two weeks.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: He said, "When will you have it?" We got it to him later than the deadline and he still managed to get it in, so we're very thankful to him.

Delegate Moore?

MR. T. MOORE: Talmadge Moore from Ward 5, Mr. President.

I was concerned, like Mr. Nixon. I'm speaking through you to the committee chairmen. Are we inviting any senior classes in the high schools to attend our hearings with specific invitations?

I'm concerned about this because since we've started this convention, I haven't seen a body of students from the high school level here as yet in a group. I would like to make certain that they are invited, because this is living history.

I would like for them to be invited, and I say this

— through the President to the committee chairs.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: This is a time for me to announce that inasmuch as our hearings begin on Monday and there are questions of support, facilities, supplies and recordings, I want to ask all the chairpersons to meet with me right after this meeting today to make certain that nothing has slipped through the cracks.

Delegate Moore, you may very well want to make that suggestion to the chairpersons assembled then. Thank you very much.

Regarding centralized mailing, the procedure -- I suppose that has been covered in our previous coordination.

MR. BALDWIN: Yes.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Public information releases: let me, with no objection from the convention, before we talk about public information releases, talk about our new public information officer. I'd like to introduce to you our public information officer, and then we'll talk about the work he has done for the convention so far.

Our public information officer is Mr. Eddie Madison. Mr. Eddie Madison, would you stand?

(Mr. Madison stood.)

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Mr. Eddie Madison is a man of

— longstanding credit in the field of public relations, and he has contacts around the country. He has already set up a series of activities for us which we intend to discuss very shortly.

Mr. Madison, is there anything you would like to say before we go on to the items that you will be doing?

MR. MADISON: Not at this time.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay. Welcome aboard, sir.

MR. MADISON: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Paramore?

MS. PARAMORE: Point of inquiry, Mr. President. I don't know whether I should give this in my report, but I think at this time, since we're discussing the public hearings, there might have been a misunderstanding in that we are dealing with three areas, health, social services and housing, as far as giving us three days of hearings.

But in our committee we only voted on two days because we decided to do all three areas in the two days, as opposed to having three separate days, and I don't know how we got the third day.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Well, if you recall, the memo that you gave me gave your preferences for a time and place, and it also said, as I recall, that you would prefer to have

three hearings, if possible. If I misinterpreted that, we can certainly eliminate one of those.

MS. PARAMORE: Well, like I said, it was a misunderstanding, in that we're not going to do health one day and housing one day and social services one day. We're going to do health, housing and social services within a two-day period, one in the day and one in the evening.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Okay, that just wasn't clear.

MS. PARAMORE: Okay. That's probably my mistake for not making it so you could understand it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We will eliminate one. Please give me a memo to that effect so that we can include that in our next press release, since that's the week after next.

MS. PARAMORE: Okay.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I would suggest, also, that if you're going to eliminate one, you eliminate the one in the middle, which gives us five hearings in one day. But that's something you can make a decision about.

Delegate Corn?

MS. CORN: Point of inquiry, Mr. President. Could you give us a little bit more about the background of our new PR man; for instance, where he has worked before, et cetera, and things like that?

MS. JONES: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. This is not a personnel meeting.

MS. CORN: Well, in introducing all the other staff members, we've had that sort of very brief, one or two-sentence -- I'm interested.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I really don't want to take much time. First of all, I think your point is out of order.

MS. JONES: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Jones?

MS. JONES: This is not a personnel meeting. If delegate Corn wants that information, she should come to the Executive Committee and she can have it.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Well, the point is well taken. Delegate Corn, I'll indicate that Mr. Madison meets with the Executive Committee regularly and he will be sitting in on your committee hearings, if he hasn't already, and you can certainly talk to him.

Let me just say that we don't share anybody's resume; that's confidential information. But I'm sure he'd be glad to talk to you.

MR. T. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, point of order.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, delegate Moore?

MR. T. MOORE: I just had a point of inquiry. We did

not discuss this in the public hearings, and I'm concerned as to whether we have the necessary tables, the microphones, and all the other --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Moore, we did shift that; that comes right after the President's report, all right?

MR. T. MOORE: I see.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: That's the public hearings, and then we deal, as the resolution called for, with the committee reports.

Our first newsletter is scheduled to appear on April 9th, which is Friday of next week. Now, what Mr. Madison has been charged with doing is sitting in on as many of our committee hearings during the course of the week, and then sitting in on this hearing and then, over the weekend, summing up what has happened in the course of the week in some positive way, and then publishing a newsletter.

The instruction we gave to him was to do this on a weekly basis. The Executive Committee today in its meeting decided that perhaps that was too frequent; that there would be more news to report on a bi-weekly basis. Therefore, that April 9th will be changed from what is indicated on your schedule here until April 16th. So, you have another week,

—
Mr. Madison.

There is to be a news release every week about what has happened. A news release is simply a press release indicating where we are and what has happened, just to keep the convention's business before the public and to let them know that we are functioning.

The first newsletter will talk about the delegates, and Mr. Madison has suggested that he would like to have photographs from all the delegates and he would like to have a bio from each of the delegates. So, in the course of the convention as he writes the various news articles, he can deal with all of the convention delegates, unless somebody has any specific objection.

Also, Mr. Dwight Kropp from the Mayor's office has indicated that they have an individual who can interpret for us, and who does interpret all of the press releases and the newsletters going out from the city government into Spanish. And they are willing to do that for us, so we'll have that also.

Now, what we've got to do is determine just what we have in the way of a remaining budget, and you'll hear about that in the Treasurer's report, so that we know how much of these newsletters we can afford.

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MR. MARCUS: I have a question.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, delegate Marcus?

MR. MARCUS: I have a question in regard to the input that the delegates may have to the news release. Since it's the President's strong feeling that delegates should not release information to the press themselves --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Marcus, I'm going to make a sincere and earnest plea of you, and here's the plea. We're conducting convention business. You may have personal opinions about one or more delegates, but please do not allow those to be reflected in your remarks. I won't allow anybody to do it, especially if it in somehow or other reflects adversely, all right?

Now, if you want to say anything, say it, but I will not tolerate reflections on your part to anybody.

MR. MARCUS: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I haven't finished; I haven't finished.

Now, you made a statement which charged the President with being in favor of denying information to the delegates. That is a charge; it's a negative and adverse thing. I interpret it that way, so I ask you and recall that that came in the form of an earnest plea, and one makes a plea

when he has no other way of getting to you as an individual.

Now, your statement, sir.

MR. MARCUS: Mr. President, last week the President made a plea of the body to please refrain from releasing information to the press. I would simply --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I'm going to rule that out of order because it is not in -- what is it you want to say?

MR. MARCUS: I was asking a question, Mr. President. I would ask the President to refrain from using his own reflections on individual delegates in regard to what they are about to say. I was asking --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: If you have a point to make, sir, may I please remind you, also --

MR. MARCUS: May I get to the point?

I was asking, Mr. President, if there would be a method of input to the public information officer in regard to these news releases. Why do you make this so difficult?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Marcus, there is a method of input. If you will recall, there is a Public Information Committee and you have access to that Public Information Committee. That committee had the responsibility to do, before we had a press officer, what he is doing now. They still stand ready to provide for him background

— information about the convention, about things that had taken place before he was there, and information today and in the future.

If the delegates would like input, then they should go to that committee.

MR. BALDWIN: Orders of the day.

MR. MARCUS: How may the delegates go --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The order of the day has been called, and I don't think that what you're saying is responsive to the issue at hand. I have responded to your question as to how.

Delegate Eichhorn?

MR. MARCUS: How do I contact that committee? When do they meet, Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Eichhorn?

MS. EICHHORN: Mr. President, you're not saying, are you, that the chairs of committees who need to get out information can't do that by checking with the First or Second Vice Presidents and dealing directly with the public information officer?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It's very simple. I'm sure that the public information officer would be glad to talk; in fact, he'll be coming to you. He has to do that in order to be able

—

to report what's going on.

MR. BALDWIN: Right.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: And I really don't think any further discussion is necessary on it.

MR. BALDWIN: Orders of the day. You've answered them two or three times.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: May we go on? Delegate Schrag?

MR. SCHRAG: I think I heard the Chair just now request the delegates to supply the public information officer with photographs and biographical information. Is that correct?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes.

MR. SCHRAG: Are the photographs to be black and white or color?

(Laughter.)

MR. SCHRAG: Sometimes, color photos do not translate as well as black and white.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The order of the day has been called. I think he can answer that question.

MR. SCHRAG: So that we have some uniform procedure of what is being requested --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I'm ignorant in that respect.

MR. BALDWIN: Speak to the information officer.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Yes, speak to the public information officer.

MR. T. MOORE: Mr. President? I'd like to put a motion in, Mr. President, that we move that some type of procedure be set up as far as releasing the information and how we contact the chairpersons, and so on, relative to the news releases. Since we do have a new person in charge, I think there should be some procedure set up as to how the chairpersons are going to coordinate this information with the chairperson of this committee and the new news release person in conjunction with the press.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It's very simple. We can do that right now.

MR. T. MOORE: I move that.

(The motion was duly seconded.)

MS. CORN: Move what?

MR. T. MOORE: That there be a procedure set up as to how we're going to implement our news release through the chairperson and the public relations person.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Could I respond to that so that a motion is not necessary? I ask for the chairperson of that committee to make a recommendation.

MR. T. MOORE: Well, I just want a procedure because

there seems to be some disorder as to how these delegates are going to get their information as far as the news releases are concerned, since we have a new person on board. I think there should be some step-by-step procedures in order to alleviate all of these asinine questions.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Well, I think you're right, but I don't think that's something we do here. Can not the chairperson of the Public Information Committee make that recommendation, and we'll follow it?

MS. EICHHORN: Point of order, Mr. Chair. That's what the motion is, Mr. President; not that it be done here, but that it be done; that the President move to see that it is done and circulated.

MS. CORN: And that that committee is called to meet.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: It's a very simple thing. You can have a motion that the President would commit himself to do again what he has said to the chairperson of the committee. I think he's going to be responsive.

MR. T. MOORE: That was the motion, Mr. President, that some type of procedure be adopted.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All right. What I'd like to do is avoid a series of motions that aren't necessary because

— they would be redundant.

MR. T. MOORE: Well, I recommend or suggest --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Mr. Thomas, would you do that?

MR. THOMAS: Yes, I will.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: And would you provide that report to me, to be shared with the delegates on Monday?

MR. THOMAS: I will, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We'll publish it and put it out on the board and then all of those questions will have been answered.

MR. THOMAS: And we will have a meeting on Thursday evening at 5:00 here.

MR. MARCUS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All right. I have one announcement to make, and let me call on the First Vice President to address you in connection with the public information officer.

MR. BALDWIN: It was brought to the Executive Committee's attention that the public information officer does, in fact, live outside of the boundaries of Washington, D. C. I checked with Personnel in the D. C. government to see if that was a conflict of what the rules were pertaining to such. The rule is that if it is a position that is hard to

fill, then the selecting official may go outside of the District government.

So, the Executive Committee has gone outside to hire a public information officer based on those reasons. Also, I was informed that he does, in fact, work in the District and does, in fact, have a D. C. address. But whether or not it's legitimate and whether or not it's legal and whether or not there's a conflict, the answer is no. It is within the policy of the District of Columbia government.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Let me say in addition to that that the Executive Committee was charged, first of all, with finding the people to fill the various important slots that we have. We had four applicants; we interviewed three of them. We couldn't interview the other one, who just couldn't show up.

The time was passing; we were at the point of the convention where it was very necessary to have that particular service.

I'm going to take two questions and then we need to move on to what delegate Jackson has indicated is the most important business for the day. Delegate Love?

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chair, it seems I recall very early in this convention a resolution by I think it was delegate

Jordan that all staff that were hired be living in the District, and it seems to me that this is a violation of that motion. Now, I don't know how it should be handled, but it seems to me this body has to make some --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Love, if you were paying attention --

MR. LOVE: I'm sorry; this is a point of order, Mr. Chair.

Because the Executive Committee has violated that motion which passed in this body, I think that the body has to override that decision or move to change the rules, or something. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The First Vice President just spoke to that. The First Vice President gave a rationale for getting for us the service that we need. He pointed out that the action taken by the Executive Committee is consistent with the District of Columbia Administrative Procedures Act.

MR. LOVE: It is inconsistent with a motion of this body.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: I'd like to make certain that we all understand that delegate Jackson has made an important point, and that is that our hearings begin on Monday and there is important business before us, and we really ought to

—
get on to that.

MS. HARRIS: I move the agenda; I move the order of the day.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The order of the day has been called. The next item of business is the number XI which has been moved to this point, which is the report of the Vice Presidents.

MS. CORN: Mr. President, I rise to a point of order. I really feel that even with delegate Baldwin's explanation, there are enough PR firms in the city whose owners and workers live and reside in the city that it would be possible to conform to the resolution of this body.

MR. JACKSON: I move the agenda, Mr. Chair.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The next item of business is the Vice Presidents' reports.

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chair, point of order.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The First Vice President?

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chair, point of order.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Mr. First Vice President?

MR. BALDWIN: Preamble and Rights, delegate Mason.

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chair, a recommendation has come to this body which is in direct violation of a previous motion.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Sir, you are out of order.

MR. LOVE: You are not able to do that. You are going to have to ask for a suspension of the rules or reconsideration of the previous motion.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Sir, you are out of order.

MS. CORN: No, he isn't.

MR. LOVE: I can't be out of order when you are violating a motion that Mr. Jordan put on the floor.

MS. CORN: And it was moved and seconded.

MR. LOVE: It was moved and seconded and voted upon by this body. If the First Vice President wants to make a move to reconsider Mr. Jordan's proposal --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The next item of business is the report by the First Vice President.

MR. BALDWIN: Delegate Mason, Preamble and Rights.

MR. LOVE: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair. You can't do this; it's pure and simple. We have rules, and a motion has been passed. The Executive Committee cannot, by fiat, decide to overrule a motion of this body.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Mason?

MR. LOVE: I want the record to show that the Executive Committee has violated a motion by Mr. Jordan that was voted on and duly passed by this body.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Let the record show that the

delegate has been ruled out of order.

MR. B. MOORE: Mr. President, point of order. He does have a very important question of the officers.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: We have dealt with that. I rule you out of order, sir.

Delegate Mason, would you make your report?

MR. B. MOORE: I'd like to appeal the decision of the Chair on this question.

MR. COOPER: There was no question.

(The motion was duly seconded.)

MR. COOPER: There was no question; nobody was recognized.

MS. HARRIS: Nobody was recognized. How can you do that?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Moore, there was no --

MR. T. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, I move that we suspend the rules in that --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Moore, you're out of order. Delegate Mason has the floor.

MR. BALDWIN: Delegate Mason, please give your report.

MR. LOVE: Mr. Chair, anybody could legally challenge this hiring.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Mason, would you make your report?

MR. LOVE: Anybody who wished to go to court could legally challenge this hiring. I expect somebody to do it.

MR. B. MOORE: Mr. President, I appeal the decision of the Chair on this matter. Am I in order or not?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: There has been no decision. There was no issue on which the decision was to be made.

MR. B. MOORE: You have made a decision that his request was out of order based on the First Vice President's explanation. That's a judgment decision on your part, and I appeal that judgment.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The President wishes to make a statement. The statement is that you do not appeal a parliamentary procedure. The second part of my statement is that there seemed to have been general agreement for the necessity to spend the time that we have today on a substantive issue which is more important than delay.

Now, I have to say this. I hate to say this from the Chair, but there seems to be a deliberate attempt to find any kind of small nit-picking thing to delay this convention, or to perhaps cast the convention officers --

MR. LOVE: Point of personal privilege. That is

impuning the motives of the people who are out here -- something the Chair just said that should not be --

MR. BALDWIN: Delegate Mason?

MR. LOVE: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair; you cannot do that.

MR. T. MOORE: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. Mr. President, point of order.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Moore?

MR. T. MOORE: I have the floor. I would like to request that the rules be suspended in this case, inasmuch as the Vice --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Moore, there is no issue on the floor over which to suspend the motion. The gentleman has been recognized to make his report, and I would like to go on with the meeting. We've lost maybe 15 minutes now; it has been very unproductive.

There has been shouting, as we see in the paper; that's true. That has been engendered not from this office here, or not from this table. We'd like to get on with the report.

Delegate Mason, would you make your report, please?

MR. MASON: The Preamble and Rights Committee is proceeding with analyzing the rights provisions of the constitutions of the other 50 states, and we have assembled

all proposals in the form of a summary in our bill of rights.

We are preparing for the coming hearings, which will be coming up the week after next. We have a subcommittee that has been charged with screening names for the state. That subcommittee is still accepting any names that may be submitted by any member of the public, and if you would spread the word that anyone wishing to express a feeling about what the name of our state should be, they should submit that to the Preamble and Rights Committee.

I believe that I can report good progress and that after the hearing, we will finalize what the committee recommends in this area.

MR. BALDWIN: Any questions for delegate Mason?

(No response.)

MR. BALDWIN: If not, the next committee is Suffrage. Delegate Johnson?

MS. JOHNSON: Our report for April 3rd is as follows. During the past week, the Suffrage Committee has heard second readings on draft articles dealing with suffrage, election and apportionment. The discussion was led by the drafters, delegates Chestie Graham, Charles Mason and Joel Garner.

Delegates Harry Thomas and Brian Moore led the

— discussion of the first reading of the draft on recall.

Amendments and revisions had a first reading, with the draft being defended by delegates Brian Moore and Jones. The committee has not voted upon the draft, but has had discussion on ideas submitted by all members wishing to make a contribution.

These preliminary drafts are being distributed to those who wish to have some input on the issues. The drafts, all compiled at the two sessions of discussion by the committee, take into consideration views discussed internally.

We also had visitors from special interest groups that have shared with us on initiative and referendum. A proposal from the Common Cause group is now before us for consideration on apportionment.

We are looking forward to our public hearings to be held this week and next, the purpose of which is to receive further input from the community at large. Following the hearings, we will refine the articles, taking into consideration information received.

At our last three scheduled meetings in April, we will vote on the articles, as they have been revised. This committee has clearly demonstrated the ability to get the task done in a timely fashion and the necessity for teamwork. I am

— proud of the tremendous work, effort and cooperation shown by the members, our research assistant, Mrs. Farmer, and our newly assigned secretary, Ms. Elsie Harvey.

We would like to say that if you, as delegates, would like to have copies of our draft proposals, we have those for you. We don't want to presume that you're interested in our issues, so I would like for you to do is, if you would like a copy of what we've done thus far, understanding, of course, that none of this has been voted upon -- it's just consensus discussion -- we'd also like your input, and if you will sign the sheet that I have, I will see to it that anyone wishing a copy receives one.

The distribution of our preliminary drafts has been approved by our committee coordinator, Delegate Baldwin. Thank you, Mr. President.

MR. BALDWIN: Judiciary, Mr. Blount?

MR. BLOUNT: The Judiciary Committee is continuing its policy and waiting until after the public hearings in order to draft the articles on the judiciary. We are still having speakers come in and speak on the different systems. Last week, we had Dr. Mary Byrd, who spoke on the judiciary articles.

— We welcome input from all the delegates and are

— trying to secure and get speakers to testify at our public hearings, which are scheduled on April 12th and 15th here at the convention center.

That concludes our report.

MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. Blount.

Human Services, Housing and Social Services, Ms. Paramore?

MS. PARAMORE: Thank you, Mr. Baldwin.

Meeting eleven was a recapitulation of what the speakers had discussed with us. As you know, our last four meetings have been just with speakers, and we have been analyzing those speeches and we decided that we're going to tape those speeches and transcribe those.

Meeting twelve was a continuing analysis of research in all given areas, to include the decontrol charter, the continuation of research of the international and local constitutions, and to form a list of priorities.

I would like to say that we enjoyed our speakers. They gave us a wealth of information. We have so many ideas on issues that we can take from them, and I'd like to say that my committee is moving along very progressively; they are doing a grand job. And on Thursday of next week, we will actually start our writing and drafting.

—

MR. BALDWIN: Finance and Taxation, Coates.

MR. COATES: Thank you, sir. This is to indicate that the committee has nothing further to report, except that the committee continues the drafting of its article on financing and taxation, and is meeting this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. and in the following week on Monday at 6:30.

Those drafts will be finalized at our Wednesday meeting at 6:30, and submitted to the public hearings both on April 12th and the 14th.

MR. BALDWIN: Thank you.

Rules and Calendar, Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Can I have your attention, please?

The Rules and Calendar Committee met April 2nd, 1982. I should first like to report to you that as a result of your actions on last Saturday, our membership is now composed of 13 people. However, I have received communication from two of those persons that they are having difficulty in attending our meetings on Friday evenings at 5:00 p.m. And I'm asking again that those two persons submit letters of resignation to the Secretary of this body.

The committee is at this time reporting to the body the following amendments to the existing --

MS. CORN: Will you be able to give the Committee on

—
Style and Drafting copies of those amendments?

MR. BALDWIN: Will you proceed, Mr. Robinson? Ms. Corn, we'd appreciate if you wouldn't interfere until he gets to the end and then raise whatever questions you have. Thank you.

MR. ROBINSON: It is my understanding that it is a procedural matter that copies of all proposed amendments to the rules were placed in the mailbox of all of the delegates and were duly posted at a conspicuous location of this hall.

The committee received from William B. Cooper on March 16, 1982 two proposed amendments to the rules. The rules in question are 2.4 and 2.5. Rules 2.4 and 2.5 are the proposed amendments and we will deal with them in order.

Rule 2.4, paragraph (c), reads, "No delegate shall serve as Chair of more than one standing committee." Delegate Cooper is asking that the word "standing" be struck from paragraph (c), Rule 2.4, "Chairs of Committees." He is also asking for an amendment to rule 2.5, paragraph (f), "No standing committee may hold sessions during the convention session without the consent of the convention." He is asking that the word "standing" be struck from paragraph (f), rule 2.5.

—
The Rules and Calendar Committee unanimously endorsed

the proposals of Mr. Cooper. However, the committee would like to point out to you that in striking from rule 2.4 the word "standing," it does limit the Chair of this convention, or the President of this body, in terms of his ability to name persons who are currently holding committees chairs.

In the event that he creates an ad hoc committee, he may want to name a person who is currently the chair of a standing committee to serve as the chairperson of that ad hoc committee.

If this body adopts the two recommendations of Mr. Cooper, it would negate the President from doing that.

Finally, the committee received an amendment from delegate Corn, who has withdrawn that proposed amendment. Also, the committee received a proposed amendment to the rules from delegate Love, and has tabled that for the time being.

The Rules and Calendar Committee would like to impress upon you the absolute need for a calendar to cover the remaining days of the convention. As I said to you last week, we met with the Executive Committee and we were asked to forego the presentation of a calendar to this body until such time as the public hearings are concluded.

We are asking you to please think in terms of meeting on a daily basis for two to three weeks, or to put it another

— way, to consider daily plenary sessions for the last three weeks of the convention, and possibly the last four weeks of the convention.

The Rules and Calendar Committee has received a memorandum from delegate Schrag which points out the time necessary, or the projected time that will be needed for each of the committees to report their various articles. There are still several of us who believe we can write a constitution on a part-time basis.

That concludes my report, with one exception. On Saturday of last week, the body granted the two operating committees a reduction in their quorums. It was voted on by this body that one-third of the membership of the two operating committees, being Rules and Calendar and Style and Drafting, can conduct convention business.

It was pointed out to me that at the time of the adoption of the one-third quorum, this body was lacking a quorum; that is, there were only 22 persons present. I am also asking at this time that this body, for purposes of placing in the rules that the Style and Drafting Committee is working on at this very moment, reconsider its actions on Saturday in regard to any duly-called operating committee needing one-third of its committee members to constitute a

quorum.

That is the gist of my report. Now, are there any questions from the body?

MR. BALDWIN: No, Mr. Chairman. I think to do it in an orderly fashion, number one, are there any specific recommendations from your committee? We'll take them one by one.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay. The committee is recommending one, that the body adopt the amendment to rule 2.4, as submitted by delegate Cooper, striking the word "standing" from paragraph (c).

MR. BALDWIN: In view of our rules, rule 7.1 states, "These rules may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of all delegates," which would be 30 people. So, Mr. Secretary, you should determine if there are 30 delegates in the room.

MR. COOPER: There are 29.

MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Robinson, he says there are only 29, so maybe we can move on to your second recommendation, and hopefully the 30th person will come in.

MR. ROBINSON: The second recommendation is that the body adopt the amendment as submitted by delegate Cooper, striking the word "standing" from rule 2.5, paragraph (f).

MR. BALDWIN: The same thing applies. How about

— your third recommendation? If you have any dealing with amending the rules, there is no point in bringing those up now because you don't have the necessary number of people to vote on such.

MR. ROBINSON: The third recommendation -- and, Mr. Chairman, I question whether this is a recommendation -- I'm asking the body to vote again, or to recall and vote over again on the changes in the quorum composition that were passed by this body on Saturday.

MR. BALDWIN: What Mr. Robinson is asking for is to rescind previous action.

MR. KAMENY: Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Kameny?

MR. KAMENY: I have the floor, please, fellow delegates. The motion taken last week was done as a suspension of the rules. What needs to be done is an amendment to the rules as a separate procedure. Therefore, recission or reconsideration is not what is in order.

This is coming forward at this point on its own two legs as an amendment to the rules, and I would suggest to delegate Robinson, in whatever manner he and his committee see fit, either now or later, that they do it that way.

MR. COATES: Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Coates?

MR. COATES: I'm a member of the Rules Committee, sir, and I don't recall the meeting of yesterday that the committee adopted the recommendation that chairperson Robinson is here now presenting to this convention. That is not, sir, the report of the Rules Committee.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: What specific part of his report are you questioning?

MR. COATES: The specific question that we reconsidered the authorization for a one-third quorum for those two committees.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: The action of the body on last Saturday, suspending the rules in order to pass a one-third quorum, is an action that needs to be --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: The question raised by delegate Coates is whether this part of your report was really a decision made by your committee.

MR. ROBINSON: No, sir, it was not really a decision made by the committee. But since the body had passed it --

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Delegate Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir?

PRESIDENT CASSELL: If that was not a decision of your committee, then your recommendation would not be a report of the committee and it would be out of order.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you.

MS. CORN: Point of information, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: Point of information?

MS. CORN: My committee had specifically given something to the Committee on Rules and Calendar last Tuesday, which is an amendment to the rules, which is absolutely necessary or, theoretically, we can never, ever adjourn, and those were two specific things.

Delegate Cooper raised to our secretary that he was not given a copy to post. He subsequently told me in due time, prior to two days before today, he would, in fact, post that proposed rule change. And in order to have these rules in order, they absolutely must be dealt with today, and that is as follows.

On the order of the day or the agenda, or whatever you want to call it, you have to have a motion at the end for new business. In a list of the order of the day of all the things, there has to be "new business" and "adjournment." That was inadvertently left out of the rules.